



## Press Release

**Press Release Announcement -- February 19, 2003 -- For Immediate Use**  
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### January Milk Production in Pennsylvania Down 1.4 Percent

**HARRISBURG** — Milk production in Pennsylvania during January 2003 totaled 909 million pounds, 1.4 percent below last January's production of 922 million pounds, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS). The number of milk cows in the state during the month averaged 590,000 head, unchanged from December and 3,000 head more than January 2002.

Production per cow averaged 1,540 pounds for the month of January, 25 pounds more than December's estimate of 1,515 pounds, but 30 pounds less than January a year ago.

Pennsylvania's milk production for 2002 totaled 10.8 billion pounds, down 74 million pounds from 2001. Pennsylvania again ranked fourth in milk production for 2002, behind California, Wisconsin and New York. The average number of milk cows during the year was 585,000, which was 14,000 less than the previous year. Production per cow during 2002 totaled 18,419 pounds, compared to 18,112 pounds during 2001. There were 9,900 farms with milk cows in Pennsylvania in 2002, 400 fewer than in 2001 and 800 fewer than 2000.

Number of dairy operations by size group and the percentage of the state's milk production in 2002 were as follows: 1,600 farms had 1-29 cows and produced 2.0 percent; 3,500 farms had 30-49 cows and produced 21.0 percent; 3,600 farms had 50-99 cows and produced 38.0 percent; 900 farms had 100-199 cows and produced 21.0 percent; 260 farms had 200-499 cows and produced 12.0 percent; and 40 operations had at least 500 head and produced 6.0 percent of the state's milk.

Milk production in the 20 states surveyed during January 2003 totaled 12.5 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from production in these same states in January 2002. December revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from December 2001.

The number of milk cows on farms averaged 7.81 million head, 56,000 head more than January 2002, and 4,000 head more than December 2002. Production per cow averaged 1,608 pounds for January, 17 pounds above January 2002.

The annual production of milk for the U.S. during 2002 was 169.8 billion pounds, 2.6 percent above 2001. Revisions to 2001 production increased the annual total by less than 0.1 percent. Revised 2002 production was up 0.1 percent from last month's publication.

The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2002 was 9.14 million head, up 0.3 percent from 2001. Average number of milk cows was revised down 1,000 head for 2001, and up 2,000 head for 2002 from the previous estimate. Average milk production per cow for 2002 was 18,571 pounds, 412 pounds above 2001. Average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 18 percent since 1993.